

CONTEND MANY YOUTHS REFUSE TO TAKE JOBS

While the great majority of youths from 16 to 18 years who are engaged in war work are turning out man-sized jobs, there exists, much to the consternation of Selective Service, a group which refuses to do the work on the home front. Many of these boys, because they are too young to get into the army or for other reasons, refuse to do any kind of work and their influence is detrimental to those who are doing their bit in a most admirable way, Thomas Turley, enforcement officer with Selective Service, told the court this morning.

Such an example of irresponsibility and slackness came to light to-day when Selective Service prosecuted a 16-year-old youth who since last May has had no less than 18 different jobs. He, like some of the others mentioned, is beyond the control of his parents and, despite personal and kindly visits to his home by Mr. Turley, he steadfastly refuses to accept employment.

He was charged with two offences: Terminating his employment without the permission of Selective Service, to which he pleaded not guilty, and to refusing to accept employment, to which he admitted his guilt.

He was warned by Magistrate James McKay that he could be sent to jail for 12 months. Sentence, however, was held over for one day and the boy will be kept in custody until to-morrow.

"Why should I work? I can make more money in the pool room." Mr. Turley reported another lad as saying when approached regarding his place of employment.

Fears Silicosis

A contrast to the first case was that of John Umiljonovic, 44, a former miner, of Craigmiller avenue, who told the court he was willing to work but he had to have an outside job on account of his health. Harry Hazell, his counsel, produced a letter from his physician saying that after working in the mines for so many years Mr. Umiljonovic was taking a chance with his health and might develop silicosis if he worked anywhere that was inclined to be at all dusty. Two other doctors, said W. W. Cooper, prosecutor, reported the accused as *in fit physical condition* to continue at the Kraft Containers, where he had been working for some time. If an outside job was so imperative, why did the accused work in a beverage room before going to his last place of employment? Mr. Cooper asked.

Counsel said Umiljonovic was living on the charity of friends as he couldn't get a permit to seek other work since he left the last place without notifying the proper authorities. He had been to Selective Service headquarters about 15 times, it was brought out in evidence.

His Worship declared consideration should be given the letter from the accused's own physician as well as that by the doctors employed by Selective Service, and placed him on suspended sentence on a charge of terminating his employment without permission. Mr. Turley will endeavour to see that he is placed in suitable work.

Fine Imposed

Convicted of aggravated assault, Albert Hammer, 18, operator, of Baker street, was fined \$15 and \$14 court costs. William Schreiber acted for the accused.

Charged with the theft of merchandise from a local store, Frank Tedisco, 20, labourer, of Lottridge street, had his case adjourned until December 27.

An adjournment was granted also to Walter Petrie, 34, labourer, of Stratford. The charges against him are theft of hams and the theft of an overcoat. He will appear again on December 27.

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